

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The petitioner requested that while charging for the water consumed he should be given a free allowance for more than one house he had in his compound.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know if the spirit contained in this Proceedings is acted upon now?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—The new rules have not been finally issued.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—My question is whether it is acted upon now.

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—Nothing is being done now. It is in abeyance.

Mr. George Chakyamuri.—May I know whether the Government does not insist upon separate meters being put up to entitle them to the usual free allowance? What is the practice?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—As to the exact practice, I want notice.

Motor Vehicles—entry into British India—Fees.

42. Mr. T. K. Nayar.—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether it is a fact that Motor Vehicles registered in our State are prohibited from entering British India unless the prescribed fees are paid to the District Board;

(2) if it is so, what does the Government propose to do in the matter?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—(1) Motor Vehicles for which toll-tax has not been paid are not allowed to ply in British territory.

(2) The matter is under consideration.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—When did this matter come to the notice of the Government?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—I cannot exactly say the date. No real complaint has come to me yet. There is only a general talk. The rules are capable of different interpretations. According to the British rule, whoever uses the car has to pay the tax. If the motor car of a resident in Cochin takes a drive along the British road it is liable to be taxed. Nobody has complained to me—no one who resides here—that he had to suffer this penalty. But there is a general rumour. I think somebody has made a representation to the Government and not to me.

Mr. T. K. Nayar.—Is it absolutely necessary that somebody in the State should refer the matter to the Government?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Unless I know there is a complaint what can I do? The rule is enforced but nobody re,

siding here has complained. So far as I know there has not been any concrete instance where one has been charged or prosecuted—nobody from our State.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Has the Commissioner made any inquiry? So far as I know there are at least half a dozen cases.

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Unless a complaint is received by me why should I make an enquiry?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Does not the Commissioner himself feel the difficulty?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—So far, I have not.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Is the Commissioner exempted?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—No.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know what is the matter that they are considering?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—Some correspondence with the British Government to see whether an equitable arrangement can be arrived at.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know at what stage the correspondence is?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—A reply is due from the Madras Government.

Dr. A. G. Menon.—In the light of the remarks of the Member for Nemmara yesterday, that he had to defend a certain friend of his, will the Government be pleased to make an inquiry in the matter?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—We had some representations a few months back and immediately after we received them we took action and we have been constantly reminding the Madras Government. Till now nothing has been definitely heard from that side. We are still reminding them.

Mr. K. Ayyappan.—May I know whether the representation was received by the Government and whether it was referred to the Commissioner of Police?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—No, I do not think we referred it to him. It is a clear case.

Allotting money for maintenance of Panchayat Roads.

43. **Mr. T.K. Nayar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they intend allotting any more amounts this year towards the maintenance of Panchayat roads as recommended by this House during the Budget Session of 1107?

Mr. P. V. Raphael.—Wherever possible deficiency in the maintenance allotment is being made up by savings in other items of works.